

Minutes (Approved 4/6/09)  
Meeting of the County Council and the Howard County Board of Education  
April 1, 2009

The meeting was called to order in the C. Vernon Gray Conference Room by Chairperson Sigaty at 8:17 a.m.

**Council members present:** Calvin Ball; Greg Fox; Mary Kay Sigaty; Jennifer Terrasa (arrived at 8:30 a.m.); Courtney Watson

**Board of Education members present:** Ellen Flynn Giles, Vice Chairman; Lawrence H. Cohen (arrived at 8:45 a.m.); Allen Dyer; Sandra H. French; Patricia S. Gordon; and Janet Siddiqui

**Review of Green Projects**

Ken Roey, Executive Director, Facilities, Planning and Management, distributed a handout entitled Going Green at HCPPS. He described the progress, including the targeting of the existing Northfield Elementary School as the first LEED Silver building. The green initiatives reflect a change of culture, such as implementation of recycling at Centennial High School. Other specifics include Energy Performance enhancements, such as the introduction of programmable thermostats for portables; white roofs; and bioretention facilities. Ten schools have received recognition under the Maryland Green School Awards Program and additional schools are participating in workshops through the Howard County Conservancy.

**Projection process for Capital and Operating Budgets**

Joel Gallihue, Manager, School Planning, made a power point presentation of the annual process, which considers MSDE enrollment reports as of September 30, residential housing types, neighborhood trends, demographic cohorts and accuracy determinations. He presented charts showing the accuracy for the different levels and countywide. The aim is accurate predictions with the opportunity for adjustments during the year. Mr. Gallihue also mentioned the schedule for the 2009 Feasibility Study and Attendance Area Review. There was a discussion of the impact of the Council's recent phasing legislation on the projection process.

**Mid-year enrollment increase from transfers from private to public schools**

Terry Alban, Chief Operating Officer, presented charts showing new entries for 2007-2008 (full year) and 2008-2009 (through 3/13/09) as well as mid-year transfers for the same time periods. The numbers do not show a big influx late in the school year. HCPSS is able to monitor individual schools and staff for increased mobility.

**What counts in education**

Ms. Gordon distributed a brochure entitled “Engaging the Community in Setting Budget Priorities.” In brief, the third annual round table engaged the community in the budget process, leading to budget priorities as well as a better understanding of the programs and opportunities offered by the school system.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.